nt>

Title: Need to provide adequate financial assistance to the Government of Karnataka to tackle the drought situation in the State.- Laid.

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI (GULBARGA) : The Karnataka Government had appealed to the Centre for a relief to tackle the drought situation in the State. In spite of various reminders and repeated requests, the Centre has not provided any financial assistance to the State. The State has sought Rs.1,880 crores and 9.90 lakh tonnes of foodgrains. Of the *ad hoc* demand of one lakh tonnes of foodgrains, the Union Government had released only 80,000 tonnes. The State Government had expressed concern over the failure of the Centre to help the State although a team deputed by it to study the drought in the State had submitted a report.

Sir, as the demand of the State Government is genuine and has been fully approved by the Central team, I would urge upon the Government to provide all the assistance, as demanded by the State Government, so that the Karnataka State will be in a position to meet the drought situation where a large number of people are suffering.